

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 AGR-10 IGA-01 L-02 H-02 PA-02

PRS-01 COME-00 SP-02 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /071 W

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R 101400Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6237

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 0507

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID EAGR IN US

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 0149

NEW DELHI 0218

NEW DELHI 0433

BEGIN SUMMARY: PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR TOPIC IN THE INDIAN MEDIA, TODAY THE SUBJECT OF EDITORIALS IN TWO LEADING DELHI NEWSPAPERS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE INDEPENDENT HINDUSTAN TIMES TERMED THE "IRONING OUT OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS" REGARDING THE SUPPLY BY THE US OF "300,000 TO 500,000 TONS OF PL-480 WHEAT" TO INDIA AND THE UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE SUB-COMMISSIONS AS "A FITTING FINALE" TO THE TENURE IN DELHI OF AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN. IT CONTINUED: "LINGERING INHIBITIONS DIE HARD, AND IT IS POSSIBLY A RESIDUAL IRRITATION THAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTRETEMPS OVER THE PL-480 SUPPLIES UNDER WHICH THE RECIPIENT NATION IS FORBIDDEN TO EXPORT GRAIN."

2. THE MOSCOW-LINING PATRIOT MAINTAINED THAT THE "MISUNDERSTANDING" WHICH HAS BEEN "DISPELLED" MAY NOT BE "THE LAST SNAG TO HOLD UP THIS PRECIOUS SHIPMENT OF AMERICAN AID AND GOODWILL. WHAT EXACTLY THE MISUNDERSTANDING WAS IS BEING KEPT A STATE DEPARTMENT SECRET

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BUT THE INDIAN PEOPLE WILL WANT AN ASSURANCE FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT

THAT NO HUMILIATING CONDITIONS THAT PL-480 AGREEMENTS USUALLY
IMPLY HAVE BEEN AGREED TO." IN CONCLUSION, IT SAID: "IT IS BETTER
FOR US TO BE FOREWARNED THAT IF INDIA DOES EVENTUALLY GET THE LOAN
OF 300,000 TONS OF GRAIN, IT WILL BE AT A PRICE -- WHICH WILL NOT
ONLY BE THAT WHICH HAS TO BE PAID IN DOLLARS."SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PL 480, PRESS COMMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE00507
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750010-0842
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750162/aaaaccfw.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NEW DELHI 0149
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2003 by RicharJA>; APPROVED <17 FEB 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EAGR, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006